SUGIYAMA Appl. No. 09/873,287 July 14, 2003

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 7-12 are drawn to a patentably distinct invention now cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-6 are amended below to overcome formality-based grounds of rejection:

1. (Currently Amended) A multilayered gas sensing element comprising:

laminated layers comprising a zirconia series at least one solid electrolytic sheet

containing zirconia and an alumina serial at least one insulating sheet containing alumina,

a bonding boundary intervening between said <del>zirconia series</del>solid electrolytic sheet and said <del>alumina series</del>insulating sheet, and

said bonding boundary including at least partly a crystal phase containing silicon e.

2. (Currently Amended) The A multilayered gas sensing element as in accordance withclaim 1, where said crystal phase further contains at least one component selected from the group consisting of: calcium oxide, magnesium oxide, barium oxide, and strontium oxide.

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3. (Currently Amended) The A multilayered gas sensing element as in accordance with claim 1, where said bonding boundary between said zirconia series solid electrolytic sheet and said alumina series insulating sheet is undulated.

4. (Currently Amended) The A multilayered gas sensing element as in accordance with claim 1, where a crystal lattice of said zirconia-series solid electrolytic sheet is connected to a crystal lattice of said alumina series insulating sheet in said bonding boundary.

- 5. (Currently Amended) The Amultilayered gas sensing element as in accordance withclaim 1, wherein a thermal expansion coefficient difference between said zirconia series solid electrolytic sheet and said alumina series insulating sheet is equal to or less than 2x10<sup>-6</sup>.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The Amultilayered gas sensing element as in accordance withclaim 1, wherein a sintering contraction coefficient difference between said zirconia series solid electrolytic sheet and said alumina-series insulating sheet is equal to or less than 3%.

Claims 7-12 cancelled.

Please add new claim 13:

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as and

13. (New) A multilayered gas sensing element as in claim 1, where said solid electrolytic sheet contains yttria.

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